

must continue to identify opportunities for future economic growth, using its expertise and proven excellence.

The bill authorizes EDA programs for 5 years and provides the agency with the funding levels necessary to effect real growth and development in economically distressed communities. The bill builds upon the 1998 act and establishes several new innovative programs. For example, the bill authorizes EDA to provide performance incentive awards to high performing grantees. Grantees can use these performance grants in any manner consistent with the act.

In addition, the bill authorizes a Brightfields Demonstration program to establish solar energy projects on redeveloped brownfields sites.

Finally, the bill continues EDA's focus on planning and its vital importance to economic development. In many States, small and underserved communities are often unable to invest the necessary resources to maintain the professional and technical capacity needed to develop and implement effective, comprehensive economic development strategies. Economic Development Districts, which are multicounty public economic development planning entities, serve as a cost-effective and efficient method to ensure that local communities have the resources needed to pursue new economic development opportunities.

This legislation provides that a minimum of \$27 million be available each year for planning purposes. In addition, the legislation assumes that EDA will continue to protect and preserve the role of EDDs in the planning program as currently practiced and administered by EDA. Planning is critical to continuing to provide important support to economically distressed rural and urban communities that are often unable to afford and maintain the professional and technical capacity necessary to implement comprehensive economic development strategies. It is essential that this program continue to function consistent with current policies and practices.

This bill was worked out, as I mentioned, with the other body in a bipartisan way. I extend my thanks to the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the gentleman from Minnesota (Ranking Member OBERSTAR), to the chairman of the subcommittee, my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) for his hard work on this bill as well, and the Ranking Member of the subcommittee, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and ask my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Illinois

(Mr. COSTELLO), who was the ranking member in our subcommittee in the last Congress and is a great bipartisan partner. I want to congratulate the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for working with us on this bill. I want to thank not only our staff on the Republican side, but also the staff on the Democratic side for making this be a truly bipartisan, good piece of legislation. I want to thank Dr. Sampson who is the Assistant Secretary for shepherding this bill through both chambers and achieving a successful result. Lastly, I want to thank Danielle from the Majority Leader's office for making sure we could speak tonight and get this good piece of legislation taken care of.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1134.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, on that, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4470, H.R. 4794, H.R. 5163, and S. 1134.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### AMENDING THE LEASE LOT CONVEYANCE ACT OF 2002 TO PROVIDE THAT AMOUNTS RECEIVED BY THE UNITED STATES UNDER THAT ACT SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE RECLAMATION FUND

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1791) to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 to provide that the amounts received by the United States under that Act shall be deposited in the reclamation fund, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1791

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. LEASE LOT CONVEYANCE.

Section 4(b) of the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2879) is amended—

(1) by striking “As consideration” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As consideration”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) USE.—Amounts received under paragraph (1) shall be—

“(A) deposited by the Secretary, on behalf of the Rio Grande Project, in the reclamation fund established under the first section of the Act of June 17, 1902 (43 U.S.C. 391); and

“(B) made immediately available to the Irrigation Districts, to be credited in accordance with section 4(I) of the Act of December 5, 1924 (43 U.S.C. 501).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO).

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1791, authored by our Senate colleague PETE DOMENICI of New Mexico, amends the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 to provide that the amounts received by the United States under the act shall be deposited by the Secretary of the Interior in the reclamation fund for the benefit of the Elephant Butte Irrigation District and El Paso County Water Improvement District.

I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the consideration of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 1791, a bill to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002.

The Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 directed the Secretary of the Interior to convey property to 403 cabin sites to the Elephant Butte/Caballo Leaseholders Association at fair market value. The necessary appraisals are almost done, and this land will be conveyed to the association in accordance to the 2002 act.

The need for the amendment has arisen because the 2002 act was unclear and did not state specifically what the Bureau of Reclamation should do with the receipts.

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The original agreement was for the money to be derived from the sale of this property to be deposited into the Reclamation Fund for immediate use by the applicable irrigation districts to help with their annual operations and maintenance costs. Because of a drafting oversight, the Bureau of Reclamation cannot fulfill the responsibilities of the original agreement of the 2002